Quick links:

“I would like to thank all members of our community for their patience, understanding and support over the last two weeks. The unprecedented change that we have experienced has been very challenging, and we recognise the ways in which the many decisions that have been made have impacted on students, families and our staff. Throughout this period, I have been moved by the resilience of our students, the support of families and the determination of our staff to do the very best for our students; thank you.

At the beginning of the week, we wrote to both Year 11 and Year 13 students with an important communication about the awarding of grades. We have been informed that we will receive information next week from Ofqual about this and we will communicate more information when we are in position to do so. We appreciate that this is a huge source of anxiety for our students and we will do all we can to ensure that the exam boards receive the required information so that students receive the grades that they so deserve.

This week we have set up our new provision at HGS for the children whose parents are critical workers and for the children who need our support. Students have completed their set work through Showbie and they have then found time to enjoy the weather, playing outside and forming new friendships. After the announcements from the Prime Minister and new guidance, we increased our social distancing at school significantly and have been stringent in our practice at school. We will continue to be open during the Easter holiday to provide this service and will be in contact with those families next week to assess the level of need. Delivering iPads to Year 10 students this week was also a highlight and we are pleased that these have now been distributed to families.

The other significant task this week was shifting our whole school community to online working. I hope you have seen that we have changed our student bulletin to increase our contact points with students. This will be issued on Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. We have also set up a new area on our website that contains more generic online activities for children. Behind the scenes, we have made changes to our own staff meeting practices so that we stay connected and provide our staff with the support that they need so that they can continue to deliver online. We are also working to develop our online teaching methodology and we are exploring different platforms that allow for greater teacher/student interaction. We ask that you are patient with us as we set up systems that are safe, reliable and allow us to maintain provision during potentially increased levels of staff illness.

We were hoping that our new build would continue but have today received the inevitable news of a temporary suspension of the work. Despite the many challenges that we have faced, we have received many very supportive emails and I have shared these with our staff this week. I appreciate that we sent many letters last week to update you and I thank you for your patience and understanding. I am hoping that we can establish a new equilibrium going forward and that new routines of learning at home can be established. I have asked our staff to provide us with feedback on our new ways of working and, with our commitment to excellence, ask you to contact mail@harrogategrammar.co.uk to share feedback, ideas and innovation so that we continue to do the very best for the children and families that we serve.” Mr N Renton, Headteacher
Information

Teaching and Learning During School Closure

Whilst the school is closed, teachers continue to set students work through Showbie at the start of every week.

Students have subject folders for each week, labelled with the week beginning date. Within each folder, teachers add instructions and upload resources for students to work on. Teachers will also highlight the work set in Homework4, so parents can see brief details of what is provided in Showbie.

Wherever possible, teachers will monitor the work done and provide ‘whole class’ feedback in Showbie, on improvements that can be made from the week’s work. Teachers may also use on-line software to set student quizzes. This allows a review of work already taught this year and practice in applying it. These quizzes provide students with instant feedback on their responses and the act of retrieving information from memory will help to improve recall in the future.

We encourage all of our students to establish a regular working routine wherever possible, which follows our school hours.

Period 1 – 9:00am – 9.55am
Period 2 – 9:55am – 10:50am
Period 3 - 11:10am – 12:00pm
Period 4 – 12:00pm – 12:55pm
Period 5 – 1:45pm – 2:35pm
Period 6 – 2:35pm – 3:30pm

If students need to communicate with their teacher, we ask that they do so through Showbie, rather than through e-mail. This is easier to manage and keeps all communication in one place, alongside the work itself.

We ask all parents to discuss with their child the work they have done and to regularly look at Showbie together.

Completion of work

This week we have established a system where teachers can feedback to the relevant year manager, where a student has not completed the work set. The year manager will then check in with parents, in order to support with any issues students may be facing. This system is very much in its infancy as children adapt to working online. We are not only using this as a welfare check, but also as a means of assessing the overall completion of work in each subject area. We very much appreciate your support in setting up routines at home, for children to work productively and where possible, in reminding students of the importance of keeping up with this work.
Useful contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Query</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Manager contact details</td>
<td>Year 7 – Ms Brown – <a href="mailto:cfb@harrogategrammar.co.uk">cfb@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 8 – Mrs Smithson – <a href="mailto:dhs@harrogategrammar.co.uk">dhs@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 9 – Mrs Ellenthorpe – <a href="mailto:mce@harrogategrammar.co.uk">mce@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 10 – Miss Moore – <a href="mailto:dfm@harrogategrammar.co.uk">dfm@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 11 – Mrs Bennett – <a href="mailto:ceb@harrogategrammar.co.uk">ceb@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixth Form Student Support Managers:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Jackson – <a href="mailto:cjj@harrogategrammar.co.uk">cjj@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Warren – <a href="mailto:bxw@harrogategrammar.co.uk">bxw@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad related issues</td>
<td><a href="mailto:helpdesk@harrogategrammar.co.uk">helpdesk@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For issues related to Educake or Kerboodle</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elp@harrogategrammar.co.uk">elp@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCSEPod access issues, please contact</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dar@harrogategrammar.co.uk">dar@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Robson</td>
<td>Contact your Form Tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problems accessing Showbie</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dar@harrogategrammar.co.uk">dar@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feedback relating to work set during the</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dar@harrogategrammar.co.uk">dar@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>school closure please contact Dr Robson</td>
<td>Contact your Form Tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General queries</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mail@harrogategrammar.co.uk">mail@harrogategrammar.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A number of our parents have found it useful to discuss with other parents how to support their child(ren) learning at home. The [PTA Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/groups/128612850123077/) is a useful form to talk to other parents.

**Student Resources for Learning at Home**

In addition to the work that is being set by teachers via showbie, a list of other resources to support our students working at home can be found on the link below:

https://www.harrogategrammar.co.uk/news/distance-learning-student-resources/

This page also includes additional resources which can be downloaded including LRC recommended reading list, Sixth Form wider reading list/activities and MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) offered by universities around the world.
Wellbeing

Tranquiliti Wellbeing App for Students

As you may know we have been working with a company, Tranquiliti, trialling an app to support student wellbeing. They have very kindly offered to roll this out to the whole school during this challenging period. This free service will support students with their wellbeing, learning and personal development. It will help the school gain an insight into the student experience as they work at home as well as keeping them connected to the school community. The app will also direct students to local and national services as well as giving them access to relevant and trusted information.

We aim to release the app to students on Friday 3 April and demonstrate how it can be used on Monday 20 April, through the Big Picture lesson.

Please [click here](#) to read the letter from Tranquiliti which details more information about the app. If you would prefer that your child **does not** receive this app, please email TMM@harrogategrammar.co.uk by lunchtime on Thursday 2 April.

Further advice and support

During this time, students may want further advice and support.

| ![Anna Freud](#) | There is a useful message, [here](#), from the **Anna Freud, National Centre for Children and Families** about managing your mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus situation. |
| ![Kooth.com](#) | **Kooth.com** is an online counselling, advice and support service for young people aged 11-18 within the local area. It provides a safe, secure means of accessing help via the internet from professional team of counsellors. |
| ![BUZZ US](#) | **BUZZ US** - Compass BUZZ offers a confidential text messaging service to young people aged 11-18 across North Yorkshire. The service was named in conjunction with young people and is called BUZZ US. By texting the service on **07520 631168** you will be able to receive confidential advice, support and signposting from a wellbeing worker within one working day via text. |
| ![JustB](#) | **JustB** have also set up a helpline if you would like to talk. They have a helpline for children, young people and adults across the Harrogate District who may be struggling or feeling anxious about the COVID-19 virus. Available 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week. 01423 856799 |
General advice for students

During this time, it is important that we all think about our own and each other’s wellbeing. We encourage students to:

1. Wash your hands – this is a simple and effective way we can look after ourselves and each other. Watch the video, by clicking here, to see why it is so important to wash your hands.

2. Take a break from the news – limit how much you read about COVID-19 and reduce your use of social media.

3. Stay connected - talk with people you trust about any concerns you have and how you are feeling.

4. Keep healthy - exercise, eat well and get plenty of sleep. The PE teachers will set routines that you can follow indoors.

5. Be kind– look for ways you might be able to help others in our community.

Update: Trips and Year 11/13 proms

Trips:
The Finance Team are continuing to work on reclaiming and returning funds wherever possible. We are also exploring which trips can be rescheduled to the next academic year.

Proms:
The Year 11 and 13 proms have been scheduled to the following dates:
Year 11 – Friday 27 November at the Old Swan
Year 13 – Friday 18 December at The Pavilions, Harrogate
Final payment for the prom should still be made via online payments. More details will be shared with students in due course.
How to stick together, by staying apart

Stay at home
no unnecessary journeys or social contact

Or exercise once a day

Public gatherings of more than two people are banned - excluding people you live with

Only leave home for
essential shopping or medical needs

Or travelling to work if absolutely necessary

Police may be able to fine you if you don't follow the rules

Useful links:
https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus
Govt.uk stay at home guidance

Coronavirus: What you need to do

Wash your hands
Use a tissue for coughs
Avoid touching your face
Digital Melodrama

We are excited to launch our first digital KS3 Drama Show! If students like to take part, please join the Showbie Group with the code: GMFUU

We look forward to seeing you there. (Drama)

Maths – Puzzler

Last week’s solution:

If the time is 7:20, what is the angle between the big hand and the small hand?
Answer: 100 degrees

This week’s puzzle:

Can you replace the letters with numbers to make the addition work?
There are multiple solutions, how many can you find?

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
S & T & A & Y \\
+ & S & A & F & E \\
\hline
H & O & M & E
\end{array}
\]

Communications

- Student Briefing: available every Monday, Wednesday and Friday via their Year Manager. Click here
  - Monday 23 March
  - Wednesday 25 March
  - Friday 27 March
  - Sixth Form Friday 27 March

- COVID-19 update: latest communications from HGS can be accessed here
  - Letter to Year 13 students (23 March 20)
  - Letter to Year 11 students (23 March 20)
  - Year 10 iPads (19 March 20)
  - COVID-19 update 18 March 20
Current Vacancies

Vacancies

Current vacancies within Red Kite Learning Trust can be found at: www.rklt.co.uk/vacancies/

During this difficult time, we are encouraging and supporting applicants to progress their applications with us and can provide an adapted, remote recruitment assessment. Although we are focusing on the immediate needs of our school communities now, we are also looking forward to when we re-open our schools fully. We want to be ready for this and continue to recruit brilliant people to join our teams. Please do take a look at our advertised roles below; if we can help in any way to support your application and interview with us, please do contact recruitment@rklt.co.uk

- Faculty Leader Science at Harrogate Grammar School, closing date Monday 20 April
- Deputy Principal at Temple Learning Academy, closing date Monday 30 March
- Teacher of Design Technology at Temple Moor High School, Leeds, closing date Monday 20 April
- Teacher of Art at Temple Moor High School, closing date Monday 20 April
- SENCO Leadership roles at Whitkirk and Meadowfield Primary Schools, closing date Monday 20 April
- Site Supervisor at Temple Moor High School, Leeds, closing date Monday 20 April

Life @ HGS

Some of our many amazing entries for the Royal Academy Young Artists Summer Show, click here to view more

@HGSDrama If you’re looking for some fun exercise with the added bonus of being from one of my favourite musicals, then look no further...You Can't Stop The Beat - Dance Tutorial
https://youtu.be/FTZgSy7HKAw

Thank you for all the foodbank donations to The Trussell Trust on Friday 20 March, the amount we received was amazing. You have done yourself so proud. @HarrogateGS @TrussellTrust
PTA Quiz Night – Friday 28 March, 7pm @HarrogateGS

Welcome to a most unique PTA Quiz.

Sadly, we can’t all be together on the evening, but we are providing you with all you need for a good night of quizzing, minus the booze and food which you will have to provide yourself!

To enter the quiz you need to look for the link on @HarrogateGS at 7pm on Friday 28 March 2020.

We will aim to post some scores later in the evening. It would be great if we can get some photos of you and your teammates taking part. It might be through Facebook, Whatsapp, House Party or a tin can on a string.

If you have some good photos tag us in on @HarrogateGS #goldenjacketfriday

Date: Friday 28 March    Start time: 7.00pm

Join via link to be posted in the HGS twitter account on the evening: @HarrogateGS

All answers need to be submitted by 10.30pm

- No cheating
- No fighting
- No arguing
- No going out!